

I would like to express my opposition to the extensions granted to wireless carriers in their implementation of telephone number portability. The implementation of number portability was an important provision of the 1996 Telecommunications Act, as it gives consumers the freedom to change carriers without the disruption caused by receiving a new phone number. In this new age of competition, this freedom is imperative. My phone number is my identity to those who want to reach me. Without number portability, I am stuck with my carrier, unable to fully appreciate the advantages that competition has generated. Other carriers can offer new services and rate plans that I am unable to utilize.

The wireless carriers have dragged their feet for too long. They use their ownership of my phone number as a tool for keeping me locked into their service. That is not true open competition. I respectfully request that you deny any further extensions to the implementation of this feature.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
James G. Speth